REGIONAL POLICY FORUM (HYBRID)

PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT, DIGITIZATION AND DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES PROJECT

DRAFT PROGRAMME

8 SEPTEMBER 2022

9:00-16.00HRS (GMT +3)

Registration Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_eXCMhYrLR6CAO57ZY1A1og

This project entitled “Transregional Research on Private Sector Development, Digitization and Disruptive Technologies” was implemented by African Economic Research Consortium in cooperation with the Economic Research Forum (ERF) and funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York.
Programme

9.00 A.M -17.00 P.M (GMT+3)

9.00 -10.00 Arrivals and Registration for in Person attendants in Nairobi – Trademark Hotel
Registration online by virtual attendants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session 1, Opening of the Policy Forum (10:00-10:45)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moderator, Abebe Shimeles, Director of Research, AERC</td>
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<td>45 Minutes Opening/Welcome Remarks</td>
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<td>10.00-10.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>❖ Ms. Yasmine Fahim, Director of Research &amp; Programs, ERF</td>
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<td>❖ Prof. Njuguna Ndung’u, Executive Director, AERC</td>
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<td>10.20 -10.45 Keynote Speaker: Mr. Peter Ndegwa, Chief Executive Officer, Safaricom PLC</td>
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<td>10.45 -11.00 HEALTH BREAK</td>
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Session I, paper presentations (11.00 – 13:10)
Moderator, Abebe Shimeles, Director of Research

Welcome and introduction by the session Moderator
75 Minutes Presentation (25 minutes each)

11.00 -11.15 Structural Transformation in MENA and SSA: The Role of Digitization
Prof. Jaime de Melo and Dr. Jean-Marc Solleder
University of Geneva and FERDI (Fondation pour les etudes et recherches en développement international)

11.15-11.25 Discussant: Prof. Ogundiran Soumonni, University of Witwatersrand, South Africa

11.25 -11.40 Digitalization in MENA and Sub-Saharan Africa: A Comparative Analysis of Mobile Internet Uptake and Use in Sub-Saharan Africa and MENA Countries.
Prof. Izak Atiyas, Sabanci University and Dr. Mark Dutz, World Bank


11.50 -12.05 Opportunities and Challenges of Disruptive Technologies on Growth in Ethiopia with a case Study of Service Sectors that are Vulnerably to Disruptive Technology.
Prof. Alemayehu Geda, Addis Ababa University

12.05-12.20 Discussant: Dr. Ben Mkalama, University of Nairobi

Dr. Eldah Onsomu, Boaz Munga, Boniface Munene, John Macharia and Violet Nyabar
Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis, KIPPRA

12.35 -12.45 Discussant: Dr. Jacob Omollo, Kenyatta University
12.45 -13.10  
Floor Discussions

13.10 -14.10  
HEALTH BREAK

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### Session II, paper presentations (14:10-15:40)

**Moderator,** Prof. Rosemary Atieno, University of Nairobi  
*Welcome and introduction by the session Moderator*  
*75 Minutes Presentation (25 minutes each)*

- **14.10 -14.25**  
  Adoption des technologies numériques, productivité et dynamique d’emploi dans le secteur manufacturier et de services au Sénégal (Digital technology adoption, productivity and employment dynamics in the manufacturing and service sectors in Senegal).  
  *Thierno Malick Diallo, Tsambou André Dumas & Fomba Kamga Benjamin*  
  Gaston Berger University of Saint-Louis, Senegal

- **14.25 – 14.35**  
  Discussant: Dr. Lassana Cissokho, Universite Cheikh Anta Diop, Senegal

- **14.35 – 14.50**  
  *Elvis Korku Avenyo & Jason F. Bell*  
  Centre for competition Regulation and Economic Development

- **14.50 -15.00**  
  Discussant – **Prof. Odongo Kodongo**, University of Witwatersrand

- **15.00 -15.15**  
  Impacts of disruptive technologies in South Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa.  
  *Prof. Lukasz Grzybowski*, University of Capetown

- **15:15 -15.25**  
  Discussant: **Prof. Mbaye Diene**, Consortium pour la Recherche Économique et Sociale (CRES), Senegal

- **15.25 -15.40**  
  Floor Discussions

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### Session III, Policy Roundtable (15:40 -16:40)

**60 Minutes**  
**Moderator, Dr. Rose Ngugi, Kenya Institute of Public Policy Research and Analysis, KIPPRA**

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<tr>
<th>Policy Panel</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- <strong>Carole Kariuki</strong>, Chief Executive Officer, Kenya Private Sector Alliance, Kenya</td>
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<td>- <strong>Cynthia Samuel-Onjuwon</strong>, ILO Assistant Director-General and Regional Director for Africa</td>
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<td>- <strong>Mezgebu Amha Terefe</strong>, Director, Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation, Ethiopia</td>
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<td>- <strong>Miriam Bomett</strong>, Kenya Association of Manufacturers.</td>
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<td>- <strong>Helen Retta</strong>, Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce and Sectorial Association, Ethiopia</td>
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- **16.40 -16.50**  
  Key takeaways and session closing by the session moderator

- **16.50 -17.00**  
  Closing remarks: Njuguna Ndung’u, Executive Director, AERC